



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



### Provisional Teaching Certificates

#### Fact Sheet #116

Prior to July 1, 1989, provisional teaching certificates were issued as the entry level certification for teachers, administrators and special services staff. Beginning on July 1, 1989, the continuum of teacher certification in Connecticut changed from a two-level system, which consisted of the provisional teaching certificate and the standard teaching certificate, to a three-level system, which now consists of the initial educator certificate, provisional educator certificate, and professional educator certificate.

#### **1. AM I ELIGIBLE FOR REISSUANCE OF MY PROVISIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE?**

**NO.** Provisional teaching certificates have not been issued since June 30, 1989. However, provisional teaching certificates are valid until the expiration date which appears on the certificate. To apply for further Connecticut certification, and to prevent a lapse in certification, an application (form ED 170), a nonrefundable \$50 application fee, and official undergraduate and graduate transcripts should be submitted to the Bureau of Certification and Professional Development approximately six weeks prior to the expiration date. The application fee must be in the form of a certified bank check or money order (no cash or personal checks will be accepted), made payable to: "Treasurer, State of Connecticut."

#### **2. IF I APPLY FOR CONTINUED CONNECTICUT CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF MY PROVISIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE, AM I GUARANTEED THAT I WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONTINUED CONNECTICUT CERTIFICATION?**

**NO.** If an application (form ED 170) and a nonrefundable \$50 application fee are submitted prior to the expiration date of the provisional teaching certificate, no additional assessment requirements need to be met to obtain certification in the same endorsement area(s) as appears on the provisional teaching certificate. However, a determination of eligibility for Connecticut certification is based upon an evaluation of professional experience and official undergraduate and graduate transcripts, in accordance with the certification regulations which are in effect at the time of application. Depending upon the certification regulations, and an individual's professional experience and academic background, an individual may be eligible for a professional educator certificate, a provisional educator certificate, or an initial educator certificate, OR he/she may not be eligible for Connecticut certification until additional course work requirements are met. If additional course work is required, it must be completed within five years of application.

#### **3. IF I AM NOT ELIGIBLE FOR CONNECTICUT CERTIFICATION UNTIL ADDITIONAL COURSE WORK REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, CAN I OBTAIN A REFUND OF MY \$50 APPLICATION FEE?**

**NO.** The \$50 application/transcript evaluation fee is nonrefundable. However, the \$50 fee can be applied toward future Connecticut certification if the individual notifies the Bureau of Certification and Professional Development, in writing, of their intention to successfully complete the current course work requirements.

#### **4. I HAVE NEVER WORKED UNDER MY CONNECTICUT PROVISIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE. IF I APPLY FOR CONTINUED CONNECTICUT CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO THE LAPSE OF MY PROVISIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE, AND I HAVE MET ALL CURRENT COURSE WORK REQUIREMENTS, WHICH TYPE OF CERTIFICATION AM I NOW ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE?**

Since the provisional teaching certificate was the entry level certification at the time that it was issued, the comparable entry level certification is now known as an initial educator certificate. Without in-state or out-of-state experience in a public or state-approved nonpublic school, the individual may be eligible for a three-year initial educator certificate if all preparation and eligibility requirements, in effect at the time of application, have been met. (See "Types of Certificates" fact sheet #123).

**5. I HAVE NEVER WORKED UNDER MY CONNECTICUT PROVISIONAL TEACHING CERTIFICATE, BUT I HAVE COMPLETED MY MASTER'S DEGREE (OR SIXTH YEAR, OR PH.D.). AM I NOW ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE?**

**NO.** Successful completion of a master's degree (or sixth year, or Ph.D.) may meet the requirements of a college or university for a degree or diploma. However, course work and eligibility requirements for specific areas of certification are determined by the certification regulations which are in effect at the time of application. Without a minimum of 30 school months of experience (in a half-time or more position) in Connecticut, in the same area of certification as the provisional teaching certificate, the individual would not be eligible for a professional educator certificate. The individual may be eligible for a three-year initial educator certificate (also see "Types of Certificates" fact sheet #123).

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**The information contained on this fact sheet is subject to change without notice.**